

In re Patent Application of:
FRISCO ET AL.
Serial No. 10/716,987
Filed: November 19, 2003

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system comprising:

a satellite television (TV) receiver;

a plurality of seat electronic boxes (SEBs) spaced throughout the aircraft;

a plurality of at least one passenger video displays display connected to said satellite TV receiver plurality of SEBs; and

a processor connected to said satellite TV receiver for determining a component malfunction condition within said satellite TV receiver, and

for generating responsive thereto a substitute image on said plurality of at least one passenger video displays display rather than permit display of an undesired image which would otherwise be produced, the component malfunction being independent of a strength of a signal received at said satellite TV receiver; and

a storage device connected to said processor for storing the substitute image.

2. (Original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 1 wherein said satellite TV receiver comprises a direct broadcast satellite (DBS) receiver.

Claims 3 and 4 (Cancelled).

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5. (Original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 1 wherein the undesired image is a degraded program image.

6. (Original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 1 wherein the undesired image is default text message image.

Claims 7-9 (Cancelled).

10. (Currently Amended) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 1 wherein said plurality of ~~at least one~~ passenger video display comprises a plurality of passenger seatback video displays.

11. (Currently Amended) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 1 wherein ~~said at least one passenger video display comprises a plurality of passenger video displays~~, and further comprising:

a plurality of signal distribution devices; and

a cable network connecting said satellite TV receiver to said signal distribution devices, and connecting said signal distribution devices to said plurality of ~~SEBs~~ passenger video displays.

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12. (Original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 1 wherein the aircraft is a narrow-body aircraft having a single passenger aisle.

13. (Currently Amended) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system comprising:

a satellite television (TV) receiver;

a plurality of seat electronic boxes (SEBs) spaced throughout the aircraft;

a plurality of passenger video displays connected to said ~~satellite TV receiver~~ plurality of SEBs; and

a processor connected to said satellite TV receiver for determining

a weak received signal strength condition and a component malfunction condition within said satellite TV receiver, and

for generating responsive thereto a substitute image on said plurality of passenger video displays prior to display of an undesired image which would otherwise be produced, the component malfunction being independent of a strength of a signal received at said satellite TV receiver; and

a storage device connected to said processor for storing the substitute image.

14. (Original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 13 wherein said satellite TV receiver comprises a direct broadcast satellite (DBS) receiver.

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15. (Original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 13 wherein the undesired image is a degraded program image.

16. (Original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 13 wherein the undesired image is default text image.

Claim 17 (Cancelled).

18. (Original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 13 wherein said satellite TV receiver generates a plurality of individual video channels; and wherein said processor determines the undesired condition for each of the individual video channels.

19. (Original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 13 wherein said satellite TV receiver generates a plurality of video channels; and wherein said processor determines the undesired condition for the plurality of video channels.

20. (Currently Amended) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 13 further comprising:
a plurality of signal distribution devices; and
a cable network connecting said satellite TV receiver to said signal distribution devices, and connecting said signal

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distribution devices to said plurality of SEBs passenger video-displays.

21. (Original) An aircraft in-flight entertainment system according to Claim 13 wherein the aircraft is a narrow-body aircraft having a single passenger aisle.

22. (Currently Amended) A method for operating an aircraft in-flight entertainment system comprising a satellite television (TV) receiver, a plurality of seat electronic boxes (SEBs) spaced throughout the aircraft, and a plurality of at least one passenger video display displays connected to the plurality of SEBs satellite television receiver, the method comprising:

operating a processor connected to the satellite TV receiver for determining a weak received signal strength condition and a component malfunction condition within the satellite TV receiver, the component malfunction being independent of a strength of a signal received at the satellite TV receiver; and

generating a substitute image responsive to the determining on the plurality of at least one passenger video displays display rather than permit display of an undesired image which would otherwise be produced, with the substitute image being stored in a storage device connected to the processor.

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23. (Original) A method according to Claim 22 wherein the satellite TV receiver comprises a direct broadcast satellite (DBS) receiver.

Claims 24 and 25 (Cancelled).

26. (Original) A method according to Claim 22 wherein the undesired image is a degraded program image.

27. (Original) A method according to Claim 22 wherein the undesired image is default text message image.

Claim 28 (Cancelled).

29. (Original) A method according to Claim 22 wherein the satellite TV receiver generates a plurality of individual video channels; and wherein determining comprises determining the undesired condition for each of the individual video channels.

30. (Original) A method according to Claim 22 wherein the satellite TV receiver generates a plurality of video channels; and wherein determining comprises determining the undesired condition for the plurality of video channels.

31. (Original) A method according to Claim 22 wherein the aircraft is a narrow-body aircraft having a single passenger aisle.